

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-27 (Canceled).

28. (Currently Amended) A computerised medical record management system comprising means for generating, storing, retrieving and updating patient medical records represented in a medical scripting language having predetermined syntactical and semantic constructs, comprising:

- (a) an administrator system having:
 - (i) a data receiver to selectively receive one or more medical records ~~including embedded commands~~ and pertaining to a patient, each record represented in a medical scripting language having predetermined syntactical and semantic constructs, being defined in Extended Backus Naur Format and being suitable both for machine interpretation and for human readability and human veracity checking, each record represented in said medical scripting language including script instructions that contain embedded commands;
 - (ii) a data store in operative interconnection with the data receiver and configured to store each patient medical record on the basis of patient data categorised into event categories ~~selected from the group~~ of patient presentation data, patient test results data, patient diagnosis data, and medication data;
 - (iii) a query module in operative interconnection with the data store and configured to receive a query from a predefined source which has been assigned selective access to the patient medical records stored therein, and to transmit relevant record data to that source to allow retrieval and updating of stored records;

and

- (b) a pre-emptive report generator in operative interconnection with the data store configured to interrogate the medical records represented in the medical scripting language in accordance with prescribed instructions to initiate report generation and execution of said embedded commands in accordance with preselected criteria.

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29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, further comprising a computer or computer network on which said data receiver, data store, query module and report generator are installed.

30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, wherein said medical scripting language having predetermined syntactical and semantic constructs involves character strings in ASCII format or Unicode character sets.

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, wherein said medical records further comprise event constructs, each event construct including the components of a date/time header field, a linnean medical word field, a comment field, a signature field, an accession detail field, and an event status field.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, wherein said pre-emptive report generator further comprises means to carry out reminder and recall actions with respect to said embedded commands within the patient records.

33. (Currently Amended) A method for managing computerised medical records, involving the generation, storing, retrieval and updating of patient medical records represented in a medical scripting language having predetermined syntactical and semantic constructs, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) using a data receiver to selectively receive one or more medical records ~~including embedded commands and~~ pertaining to a patient, each record represented in a medical scripting language having predetermined syntactical and semantic constructs, being defined in Extended Backus Naur Format and being suitable both for machine interpretation and for human readability and human veracity checking, each record represented in said medical scripting language including script instructions that contain embedded commands;

(b) using a data store in operative interconnection with the data receiver to store each patient medical record on the basis of patient data categorised into event categories ~~selected from the group~~ of patient presentation data, patient test results data, patient diagnosis data, and medication data;

- (c) using a query module in operative interconnection with the data store to submit a query to the data store from a predefined source which has been assigned selective access to the patient medical records stored therein;
- (d) transmitting relevant record data to said source to allow retrieval and updating of stored records; and
- (e) using a pre-emptive report generator in operative interconnection with the data store to interrogate the medical records in accordance with prescribed instructions in order to initiate report generation and execution of said embedded commands in accordance with preselected criteria.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 carried out on a computer or computer network on which said data receiver, data store, query module and report generator are installed.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, said medical scripting language having predetermined syntactical and semantic constructs involves character strings in ASCII format or Unicode character sets.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, said medical records comprising event constructs, each event construct including the components of a date/time header field, a linnean medical word field, a comment field, a signature field, an accession detail field, and an event status field.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, further comprising the step of using said pre-emptive report generator to carry out reminder and recall actions with respect to said embedded commands within the patient records.